

HONORING NINE WORLD WAR II  
FEMALE VETERANS

**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2015*

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the nine outstanding World War II female veterans from Palm Beach County who will soon be honored by the Palm Beach County Veterans Committee. They are a cohort defined by dedication, excellence, and selflessness in their willingness to serve.

On Veterans Day, we pay tribute to the men and women who throughout history and to this day have defended our Nation and our values through service in our armed forces. The debt we owe to these veterans is immeasurable, and we must always strive to be a nation worthy of their heroic sacrifice.

For the past eight years, the Palm Beach County Veterans Committee has sponsored annual Veterans Day parades and ceremonies honoring our Nation's veterans. This year, nine female World War II veterans will be personally honored as Grand Marshalls in the Palm Beach County Veterans Day Parade on November 8th.

Congratulations to Dorothy Echeverria, Maxine Bodman, Nina Gebrian, Marjorie Ulsamer, Florence Mascott, Virginia Stefan, Bernice Harwood, Eleanor McFadden, and Jean Mahonney on being chosen as Grand Marshals in this year's Veterans Day parade. I am proud to honor them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and express deep appreciation for their service to our Nation.

HONORING BARBARA CHRISTWITZ

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2015*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Barbara Christwitz, a community leader and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Barbara Christwitz was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Barbara Christwitz is the founder of Citizens Caring 4 Clearlake, a non-profit organization that leads neighborhood clean ups of trash and debris. She is dedicated to making Clearlake a better place.

Whereas, in addition to Citizens 4 Clearlake, Barbara has been an active community member with an extensive volunteer resume. She volunteers for the Lake County Time Bank and Lake County Coop and is a coordinator of monthly Peace Prayer dances. Barbara helped establish the Highlands Senior Service Center Garden and is a leader in the Girl's Circle sponsored by the Lake County Family Resource Center.

Whereas, Barbara has been a tutor specialist at Yuba Community College for the past ten years. She is an amazingly giving person with an inexhaustible spirit who takes pride in her community.

*Resolved*, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional

District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Barbara Christwitz.

IN APPRECIATION OF THE PUGET  
SOUND PARTNERSHIP

**HON. DENNY HECK**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2015*

Mr. HECK of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank the Puget Sound Partnership for its tireless efforts to protect and restore America's largest estuary.

The Puget Sound Partnership is the agency of Washington state serving as the backbone organization for Puget Sound recovery. The Partnership coordinates the efforts of citizens, governments, tribes, scientists, businesses and nonprofits to set priorities, implement a regional recovery plan, and ensure accountability for results.

It is this kind of cooperative effort that can turn back the tide of degrading habitats and changing ocean chemistry, and I commend the Partnership for taking on the mantle of leadership in this vital mission.

The Puget Sound is not only a national environmental treasure; it is the centerpiece of our cultural identity and economic strength in the Pacific Northwest. If habitats continue to degrade and our cool, clean water is jeopardized by changing ocean conditions, we will lose much of what makes the Puget Sound and Washington state so special.

That is why I have worked closely with the Puget Sound Partnership and its Executive Director, Sheida Sahandy, to bring their model of cooperative, coordinated recovery to federal agencies through the Promoting Unified Government Efforts To Save Our Sound Act, or the PUGET SOS Act. This bill is a significant first step to bring more federal attention to bear on Puget Sound recovery, and I sincerely thank the Partnership's staff for their assistance and advice in crafting this important piece of legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL EN-  
DOWMENT FOR THE ARTS ON  
ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2015*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts. Fifty years ago today, President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed the National Foundation on the Arts in Humanities Act as an umbrella for creating the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities.

Since President Johnson signed National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) into law 50 years ago, the NEA has been supporting artists and arts organizations across this country. The NEA's grant programs have helped support the creation of new artwork in our communities, taught generations of children the power of creativity and problem solving, preserved our nations artistic heritage, and brought art forms to stages, movie theatres,

television, and public spaces across the United States.

The investment we make in the arts provides us not only with the enrichment of our communities across the country, but it is also a powerful economic driver. Each year, the nonprofit arts industry generates \$135.2 billion in economic activity, providing 4.13 millions jobs, and returns billions to the federal government in income taxes. Additionally, for every one dollar of federal funds we invest in the arts, we return 9 nonfederal dollars back—an unprecedented return on investment. Through this federal investment, the non-profit arts industry generates \$22.3 billion in government revenue.

The NEA has been at the forefront of a national effort to support arts and health in the military through the NEA/Walter Reed Healing Arts Partnership. This program supports writing, visual and music arts therapy, and yoga for service men and women at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICOE). These cost effective, non-invasive arts therapy programs rank consistently in the top five "helpful" and "wish to continue programs" on patient satisfaction surveys of men and women who have gone through the program. Through art therapy programs, our servicemen and women can transition away from large numbers of prescription medications to art therapy programs which allow for healing, psychosocial skill building, and self expression directly correlated to an increase in quality of life after leaving the treatment at NICOE.

The NEA also supports life-long learning in the arts through education programs that have been proven to help close the education achievement gap and help increase better grade point averages in core academic subjects.

As President Johnson said: "The arts and humanities belong to the people, for it is, after all, the people who create them." Please join me in recognizing the NEA on its 50th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF BAYSHORE SEN-  
IOR HEALTH, EDUCATION AND  
RECREATION CENTER

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 29, 2015*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bayshore Senior Health, Education and Recreation Center in Keansburg, New Jersey as it celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. The Center's efforts to enhance the well-being of the community's senior population is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Through its activities, workshops, outings and classes, the Bayshore Senior Health, Education and Recreation Center provides an opportunity for seniors to receive resources, information, exercise and lunches, but also an opportunity to give back to the community through programs such as Crochet for a Cause and ESL lessons. In addition, the Center's community involvement extends beyond its services to seniors, offering internship and practicum opportunities to college students